MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Military nursing is a profession where total devotion to patient care is absolutely essential and marriage, with its commitments, makes it difficult for nurses to function in the military, especially in field conditions. Due to shortages in the Nursing Cadre in the past measures were taken since Jan. 1968, to retain nursing officers in service even after marriage if their performance of duties was satisfactory. This was achieved by granting them extensions in service for two years at a time. These shortages have been brought down now; hence, the existing policy was reviewed. In the interests of functional efficiency the services of only those married nurses whose performance is not satisfactory are now being terminated.

(c) No, Sir. In the last one year 45 nurses were not granted extensions in service due to their insatisfactory record. 16 of them have gone to Court and obtained stay orders. The final orders of the Court are awaited. Government maintains that the present policy, which permits retention of married nurses in service only if their performance is satisfactory in terms of laid down criteria, is in the interests of the particular needs of the armed forces.

Amassing of troops by Pakistan on Indian borders

497. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Newstime (Hyderabad) dated the 14th October, 1988 wherein it has been stated that Pakistan has been amassing its troops in Rajasthan—Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir borders;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any steps have since been taken to meet the situation and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) Government have seen the news item. No unusual concentration of Pakistani troops in Rajasthan, Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir has, however come to notice.

(c) Government keep a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on our national security and take appropriate measures from time to time to ensure full defence preparedness.

Clearance of Narmada Sardar Sarovar Project

498. SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has since given investment clearance to Narmada Sardar Sarovar Project, if so, what issues were taken into consideration while giving the clearance;

(b) whether environmental and rehabilitation factors have been taken into account by the Planning Commission, if so, what are the commitments given by the Government of Gujarat for these purposes;

(c) by when the Project will be completed and what will be the estimated cost; and

(d) whether the Planning Commission has estimated the total benefit to be accrued from this Project including that of drinking water supply?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir, the investment clearance of Sardar Sarovar Project in Gujarat was issued on 5-10-1988 taking into account its techno-economic viability as well as fulfilment of conditions laid down by the Ministry of Environment & Forest *vide* their OM

No. 3-87/80-IA, dated 24-6-87 and No. 8-372/83-FC, dated 8-9-1987 for the environmental conservation and rehabilitation and resettlement of project affected people.

(b) Yes, Sir. The rehabilitation and resettlement work and environmental safeguards will be carried out as laid down under the guidelines of the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal Award which has been further liberalised by the Government of Gujarat for oustees as well as under the conditions stipulated by the Ministry of Environment and Forest while according the environmental & forest clearance to this project.

(c) The State Government has informed that the main component of the project is planned to be completed at the estimated cost of Rs. 6406 crores (at 1986-87 price-level) in 17 years considering 1987-88 as base year, while the works of Command Area Development will be completed in subsequent 5 years i.e. by 22 years from 1987-88. Every effort will be made to complete the project expeditiously.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Sophisticated techniques for off-shore areas

499. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any plans have been finalised to induct highly sophisticated techniques for faster reconnaisance of off-shore areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The Department of Ocean Development has no plans to induct highly sophisticated techniques for faster reconnaisance of off-shore areas.

(b) does not arise.

Marketing of breast milk substitutes

500. DR. YELAMANCHILI SHIVAJI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present policy of Government on marketing of breast milk substitutes;

(b) what is the reaction of Government to the recent press advertisements of Anand dairies regarding their Amul New Milk Spray as an infant feed;

(c) whether it is a fact that some harmful substances were detected in human milk too abroad and D.D.T. is one of them; and

(d) whether such studies had been conducted in India too if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) As per the information received from Ministry of Human Resource Development, the Government of India has adopted the Indian National Code for Profection and Promotion of Breast-feeding in 1983. On that basis baby food manufacturers in the country are expected to collaborate with the Government in the implementation of the Code. Advertisements of all baby foods have been suspended on Radio and Doordarshan.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected from the concerned Ministries and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Expenditure on Antarctic Expedition

501. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total expenditure on Antarctica expeditions till date;

(b) what is proposed expenditure over the next five years;

(c) what are the results expected from this project; and